

THE DODGER'S LATEST LITTLE DODGE.

The statesman of "small ingenuity," in imitation of his betters, has thrown up a feather to see how the wind blows. The intentions of the Cabinet in the matter of the Legislative Council, and their programme for the ensuing session, have been published, not by authority, but as "substantially correct, being derived from a source of unquestionable authenticity." We are told that the publication emanates from "a gentleman who may be presumed to have opportunities of acquiring correct information." We are recommended to take it "for what it may be worth," and we cannot deny that it has considerable value. We recognise in it an attempt to secure the clamorous approval of the multitude in favour of a set of names before they are submitted to the Governor. A direct Ministerial communication to the public would have been too indecent even in the present times. The announcement, however, is evidently not the least Ministerial because it is indirect. Sir John Young can now see the stamp of men with whom he has to deal. The constitution requires him to consult his Cabinet, and his Cabinet without his authority take the public into the consultation, and that too before they communicate with him—the transparent object being to overawe or mislead him in the performance of the most serious public duty which, in all probability, he will ever be called upon to discharge.

The names are given of twenty-five persons who are likely to be submitted to the Governor for appointment as Legislative Councillors. They are divided into two classes on the Land Bill. For "Against" Mr. Wentworth is put forward for the post of President, and so nicely is the division made that on each side, excluding Mr. Wentworth, there are twenty-five self-denying in the Cabinet that on their Great Land Bill they are willing to put into the Council as many enemies as friends, and to give an enemy the casting vote. What can be fairer? The Ministerial Enu may shake its feathers, and give a screech of alarm, but moderate Liberals must be lost in admiration of the statesmanlike and dignified conduct of Mr. Cowper and his colleagues. They are willing to risk the loss of some portion of their popularity, by refusing to go the whole length with the extreme republicans. Let these republicans grow a little—so much the better; the great body of the Liberals, by giving in their adhesion to Mr. Cowper's moderate programme, must convince the most sceptical of the shameful way in which they have been maligned; and, when Sir John Young finds them approving such Conservative nominations, he cannot but give his approval also.

It is our duty to let a little daylight in upon these ingenious proceedings. Of the twenty-five names put forth there are only seven (omitting Mr. Wentworth, the intended President) who, except on the Land Bill, would be found voting against Mr. Cowper's Cabinet, upon any question whatever, namely:—Sir W. Manning, Dr. Mitchell, Mr. Fawcett, Mr. Holden, Mr. Darvall, Mr. Thomson, and Mr. Kemp. The last named gentleman, although his good sense would often compel him to withhold his vote, would be inclined to support rather than oppose them. Mr. Allen would be Chairman of Committees and therefore not even called upon to vote, and Mr. Berry would never vote at all. There would be left fifteen thorough-going ministers, viz.:—Mr. Robertson, Mr. Hargrave, (both in the Cabinet), Mr. Byrnes, Mr. Oakes, Dr. Dickson, Mr. Robey, Mr. Russell, Mr. Scott, Dr. Macfarlane, Mr. Arthur, Mr. Mark, Mr. Jones, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Campbell, and Mr. Fitzgerald. We don't remember (the Land Bill excepted) when any one of the fifteen named ever voted against Mr. Cowper. Some of them may have done so on a few occasions, but those occasions are so few and so insignificant that we don't remember them. Should such a Legislative Council be constituted, the present Cabinet would have a certain standing majority of more than two to one. We have no desire to go into a detailed personal examination of the claims of any one of this majority, but we know that we express the opinion of every one whose opinion is worth anything on such a question, when we say that there are not four of them really fit for seats in the Council. When they are compared with several of those who were members of the late Council, and whom it appears, the Cabinet do not intend to recommend for appointment; the contrast, as regards education and intellect,—to say nothing of other matters, is perfectly startling.

These, however, are the gentlemen who, in preference to all the other gentlemen throughout this broad territory, Sir John Young is to be asked to send into the Legislative Council. Will he do so? Will Mr. Wentworth and the seven accept seats with the fifteen? We do not believe it. We cannot believe that Mr. Wentworth and the other seven will degrade themselves by going into a Council merely to give respectability to a body which, without them, would be contemptible. We cannot believe that Sir John Young will not exhaust the ranks of educated respectability and social station before he accepts the lower standard which is about to be presented to him. He, at all events, is not interested in retaining the present Cabinet in power. He will surely put to himself the question:—For what is a Legislative Council required? What are its duties? What kind of capability is necessary for their proper discharge? We can conceive no position more calculated to inspire contempt than the one in which Sir John Young is at this moment placed. He has to nominate, perhaps, some thirty gentlemen for the highest duties—for duties which call for education, experience, judgment, ability, integrity, firmness, and character of no ordinary kind. The vagaries of a wild and rampant democracy are to be checked, the enemies of order to be resisted, wild theories to be confronted, the people to be instructed, led, persuaded, not by force, but by a dignified attitude, and the power of reason calmly exerted and steadily maintained, and the men who are to do this must derive their power from him alone. He has the whole colony to choose from. His choice is not to be made during the tumult of an electioneering contest, or under the excitement of the polling-booth or the committee-room. In the retirement of his closet, influenced by no party feeling, having but one single object to accomplish—that is, to select the fittest men—he will be able to make his nominations under advantages which no popular constituency can ever enjoy. No constituency can ever be got together which as a whole can form so true an estimate of the position of a legislator and of the requirements of candidates for such a position as an educated gentleman who is unconnected with party politics, and has no feelings to gratify beyond a sincere desire to promote the welfare of the public. We in common with others have

been accustomed to attribute the present depressed state of the country to the working of universal suffrage, but we shall feel ourselves compelled greatly to modify our opinions upon the franchise if Sir John Young when he is about to record his vote as the sole constituent of the Legislative Council should, like the lowest of our mobs, despise education and turn away from intellect for the purpose of singling out ignorance and stupidity to do them honour.

ECCLESIASTICAL SCANDALS IN FRANCE.

(From the European Times, March 12.)

A CASE which has excited great interest in the north of France has, for four days, occupied the Court of Assizes du Nord, sitting at Douai: the trial of a certain Abbe Mallet, fifty-four years of age, a canon of the Cathedral of Cambrai, on the charge of the abduction of two girls under age. A German Jew, the name of Bluth, who, in 1849, was schoolmaster at Sarrelouis, in Prussia, and had wife and nine children, sent his eldest daughter, Anna, by name, to Paris, to get employment as a governess, a person to whom she was recommended introduced her to the Abbe Ratisbonne, a converted Jew, chief of a religious establishment called Notre Dame de Sion, the object of which is to procure the conversion of Israelites. In a short time Anna Bluth was converted, and baptised by the name of Marie-Sion. She summoned her second sister, whose name was Minchen, to Paris, and that girl was also converted, and baptised by the name of Gabrielle. In June, 1848, Bluth himself came to Paris to see his two daughters, and as the terrible inscription was at that time raging, he was received into the convent of the only Katsibonne. Though he remained there only a week, he was converted, baptised, confirmed, and had the sacrament administered to him. His change of faith necessitated his resignation of the place of Jewish schoolmaster at Sarrelouis, and he took up his residence at Paris, causing his wife and his other children to join him. In a short time three of his daughters were baptised and admitted to the convent of the A. B. Ratisbonne. The eldest daughter, Sion, for whom the place of governess in the family of a gentleman named de Margouville, in the environs of Cambrai, had been obtained, had become acquainted with the Abbe Mallet, of that city, and he, at her request, sent for her brother Adolphe, then twenty-five years of age, and placed him in the house of the apostolical missions of Cambrai. Three months after, the young man was a Roman Catholic. Thus the father and six children had gone over to the Christian religion, but Madame Bluth remained firm to the faith of her fathers, and was much grieved at the conversion of her children, especially of Adolphe. Having learned that Sion contemplated making the three youngest children Christians, she carried them off to London. Bluth believed that his wife had been abandoned by her, and went to London to find her, and with her was received for some time into the house of the Abbe Mallet. In 1854, at the instigation of the canon, Bluth made a formal demand on his wife at London to give up to him and his daughter Elizabeth, and Adolphe was sent there to present it, the abbe supplying funds for the journey. Shortly after, Mr. Lewin brought the girl to France and gave her up to the father. Sometime after, after a correspondence with her husband, Mme. Bluth thought right to join him with the other two children at Cambrai. This was in 1854, and one of the children, a boy, was sent to an ecclesiastical college at Valenciennes, whilst Elizabeth was placed in the convent of Bernardines at Cambrai. About that time unfavourable rumours were spread as to the connection between the eldest daughter and the rest of the family in her house, and two other daughters, Gabrielle and Louise, complained to their mother that he was too free in his manners with them. In consequence, Mme. Bluth left Cambrai for Paris, and there was joined by her husband. The couple then endeavoured to get back their children, and after a while Adolphe and Louise joined them. But according to the indictment the Abbe Mallet then employed all his efforts to remove this girl from her parents, and eventually succeeded in doing so. Thus at the beginning of 1856, Louise, who was not then twenty-one years of age, disappeared, and for two years and a half they could not learn what had become of her, when all at once she returned home. She then said that when in the latter part of 1855 she had joined them, the Abbe Mallet had recommended her to fly from them if she heard a word against the Christian religion; that, having determined to leave them, she went to a lady in the Rue de Bac, to whom she had been told to apply; that the abbe then joined her, and took her to a house in the Rue Dugues-Clignon, a large, twenty-four hours after, the Abbe Mallet came to her; he was, she said, disguised in a large cloak, a hat, and a wig. He conveyed her in a vehicle to St. Denis, where they took the railway to Cambrai. On the way he kissed her several times, told her that she was a saint and a heroine, and spoke of it to her mother. At Cambrai she found her sister Sion, who took her to the convent of the Sainte-Union at Douai. From that establishment she was conveyed to a convent at Kain, near Tournai, in Belgium, and there she remained several months. The Abbe Mallet visited her several times, and repeated attempts were made to induce her to become a nun, but she refused to take the veil. She, after a while, left the convent, and returned to that of the Abbe Ratisbonne, at Paris. As she again refused to become a nun, a place as shopwoman was procured for her at Arras, but after a while she returned to her parents. Such was the alleged abduction of the girl Louise, who, as has been stated, was in the convent of the Bernardines at Cambrai, and was then under sixteen, should likewise be restored to them. It was not until 1860 that, in spite of the most active researches, they could discover where she was, and they found her in a lunatic asylum at Douai; nor would they have discovered her then unless the public authorities had assisted them. It was afterwards ascertained that in May, 1856, a few days after the boy Louis was given up, Sion had removed her sister from the convent at Cambrai, and had her taken to Abbe Crombe, apostolical missionary, who gave them his blessing, then to the Abbe Valke, vicar-general, and then to the Canon Mallet. After stopping a little time with the latter she took leave of him, and he embraced Elizabeth, saying, "Obey your sister, and you will be happy! Above all, be courageous. If by chance you meet your parents, do not be afraid. The Jews can do nothing against you, for we are as cunning as they are!" The girl was removed from convent to convent, and at the one at Douai she became insane, and had to be placed in an asylum. The Abbe Mallet visited her at all the convents. The Abbe Mallet, on being interrogated, gave equivocal answers, for which he was rebuked by the President. He declared

that it was false that any improper intimacy had existed between him and Sion, or that she had been seen in his bed. Witnesses were then called, and their evidence went to prove that Mallet had seduced the two girls, and that though Elizabeth had recovered from her insanity, Sion was now in a lunatic asylum, in consequence, it is supposed, of her seduction by the abbe, who was on her mind. On Monday the court found Mallet guilty, with extenuating circumstances, and the court sentenced him to six years' imprisonment.

A monk belonging to the Christian School at Angers, named Chassé (in religion Brother Cassimir i. Angles), has been sentenced to six years' imprisonment for assaults upon little boys confined to his care. The superior of his monastery, Jean Baldit (in religion Brother Lelouis), who was included in the indictment, has fled from justice.

The Belgian journals announce another ecclesiastical scandal—the arrest, at a place called Menin, of a certain Brother Fiddé, a member of the order of Good Works, but whose real name is Van Brakom, on the charge of committing assaults on girls under fourteen years of age. He has been lodged in the prison of Courtrai to await his trial. The late trial in which the Abbe Mallet figured in so disgraceful a manner is commented on by the *Opinion Nationale* in the following terms:—"A deplorable case has just been tried before the Court of Assizes of the Nord. A priest, a member of the highest order of clergy, a canon of the Cathedral of Cambrai, had to answer before a court of justice for having seduced a young girl, four years of age. The girl, a fifth, but she escaped from him. Of the four sisters, two were restored to their parents. One, for a long time could not be found, and it was not known what had become of her. All the researches of justice, joined to those of the parents, and the authority of the Keeper of the Scales himself, were vain in presence of denials and falsehoods. The young girl was removed from convent to convent under false names; and when interrogatories are made in the name of the law, nuns, lied, priests, perjured themselves, and the least audacious of them made mental reservations. All that was done under pretext of religion, and for the conversion of Jews. These girls, then, were baptised, and they were so well converted that they became insane. And this began in 1853, long before the affair of Mortara, about which so much noise was made, and which the clerical party so highly turned into ridicule, since Mortaraising was put on a large scale in France. In France, however, the clergy acted with more precaution than in Rome, and they had, for example, the Saints' Union, or Order, which has numerous convents in the north of France and in Belgium. A young girl, for example, is taken away by a sister of the order, who is provided with a 'command' from the superiors of the chief house at Cambrai; she is made to stop a few days in different convents, and in each under a false name, so that it is impossible to follow her track. If, however, justice pursue her too actively, she is taken across the frontier into Belgium, and then the police are at a loss. One of the sisters, out of five, escaped from Canon Mallet; of those who passed through his hands one is mad, another was so, and a third cannot be found. What has become of the latter? The accused does not know, his housekeeper does not know, the superior of the convent does not know, the Abbe Ratisbonne does not know, the Abbe Mallet does not know. We are thus plunged into the darkness of falsehoods and audacious denials, in which justice can do nothing, and before which society shrinks back in terror! In terror? Yes, certainly; for it is now evident that on pious pretences our children can be taken away; that our researches after them, and the cries of fathers and the tears of mothers can be laughed at; and that the justice of the country can be turned into contempt."

ANecdote of QUEEN VICTORIA.—The following admirable trait in the character of the Queen may not be generally known. When Princess Victoria, as she is called, was a young girl, and the Countess of Ratisbonne did not know, the Abbe Mallet, who was a young and intelligent looking man, and who had been frequently amused herself by going into a carriage to different shops, and derived great entertainment, when directed of the appendages of a carriage, in observing, as a passive spectator the infinite variety of incidents and occurrences with which London abounds. Being one day at Russell and Bridge's, she observed, among many other objects that attracted attention, one that fixed her eye. 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MERCANTILE AND MONEY ARTICLE.
Thursday Evening.
 The amount of Customs duties paid to-day was
 as follows:—

Brandy	.....	.....	.....	£203 15 8
Gin	.....	.....	.....	170 11 0
Whisky	.....	.....	.....	87 14 7
Rum	.....	.....	.....	527 10 9

Perfumed spirits	.....	.....	21 14 11
Wine	.....	.....	13 13 8
Ale, porter, and beer (in wood)	.....	.....	19 8 4
Tobacco and snuff	.....	.....	208 2 0
Tea	.....	.....	840 5 8
Coffee and chicory	.....	.....	28 14 0
Sugar, unrefined	.....	.....	250 0 0
Flotage	.....	.....	3 6 0

Messrs. Mort and Co. held to-day their weekly produce sale. The quantity of wool catalogued was small, only 25 bales, the whole of which

TALLOW.—The market is a little firmer, and although the supply was about the average prices were well maintained. There was rather

a better demand for shipping parcels, and all the lots offered were sold. About 49 casks of tallow were sold at the following rates: beef and mixed, 37s. to 45s. per cwt.; mutton, 46s. 6d. per cwt.

HIDES.—The market is firm, and prices ruled a shade higher than last week. A lot of 205 heavy hides brought 17s. each, which was the highest price obtained for about 1000 hides were sold, at from 5s. 3d. to 17s. each. Skins, rid. to 3s. 9d. each. A lot of 365 hides

Messrs. L. E. Threlkeld sold to-day by auction the cargo of Mauritius *angars* ex Wild Wave. There was a good attendance of buyers, and prices again ruled higher. The rates obtained ranged as follows: Snowdrop crystals, £48 2s. 6d.; white grainy crystals, 64s. 17s. 6d. to 64s.; white granular, 54s.

£46 17s. 6d. to £47; white counter sugar,
 £45 2s. 6d. to £45 10s.; superior ditto, £46
 15s. to £46 17s. 6d.; yellow counter sugar,
 £44 5s. to £44 15s.; rich counter light sugar,
 £46 5s.; dark ration, £37 10s.; yellow ditto,
 £43 10s.; bright ditto, £42 2s. 6d. to £42
 15s.; dark grainy ditto, £38 14s.; superior
 white grainy sugar, £45 15s.

CORPORATION RATHS.

To the Editor of the Herald.
SIR,—Now is the time for the Corporation to convert an unprofitable piece of property into a good payable speculation,—that is by turning the Old Market-house, Haymarket, into a public bath for hot and cold baths. It is not one out of a hundred of the population that can spare the time to walk to the Domain. And as I really think if that was turned into one it would not accommodate one-fiftieth part of the would-be bathers if baths were to be had at convenient distances. Truly,
Yours truly,
J. H. B. B.

but-street that have been unoccupied for years, that I dare say could be leased at a small rental. In England these establishments are paying well and spreading fast, and in this country, where the bath is so essentially necessary, the whole population of Sydney, should they require a wash, must go to the Domain for it. Your influence and advocacy for the establishment of public baths in various quarters of the city would be a great boon to the public.

A BATHER.

"THE CAROBERRE AT WAVERLEY."
To the Editor of the Herald.

Sir,—I beg to assure "Trim, the Corporal" that the expenses of what he is pleased to term the "White-bait dinner," at Waverley, were not paid out of the rates, but out of the pockets of those members of the Municipal Council who were present, and of one of them who (from indisposition) was absent.

As "a respectable and well-to-do man," the corporal can afford, no doubt, to sneer at the size of the

the "Carpenter's building" but he should inquire before he enters, and not do as he did, the owner of its principal room as that of the entire structure.

With Trim's inferences touching the Ministers who were present on the occasion alluded to, the Waverley counsellers have nothing to do. As the Ministers were there as guests, and availed themselves of that right of free speech common to all present.

The reason why "Trim, the Corporal," was not invited must have been a presumption that the stewards did not regard him as entitled to an invitation, and the tone of his letter shows that they exercised a wise discretion.

I am, &c.,

June 6th.

A COUNCELLOR.

BUSH MISSIONARIES.

To the Editor of the Herald.

Sir,—As I was reading your report of the meeting of the Bible Society, an idea struck me which would, I believe, if carried out, be productive of much good. Every one that has been any time in this colony well knows that there are many places where the population is too small to support either a church or a school.

schoolmaster. I know of such districts within forty miles of Sydney. Now, if two or three such districts were united, and an energetic pious man appointed as schoolmaster and catechist, he could live in the most central spot, and have school there twice a week, at such hours as would be most suitable to the inhabitants, leaving that part of the day during which school is closed to be spent visiting the people, and acting as a home missionary. The remainder of his time might be equally divided between the other districts in the parish.

I think the above arrangement would be peculiarly suitable to the country districts of this colony, as parents would spare their children for two attendances where they could not afford to lose their services the whole week. No doubt many young persons would also avail themselves of the opportunities afforded by these schools. Of course, the time being so limited, the education must be of a most elementary character.

The great difficulty would be to get suitable men, as they ought to possess respectable attainments and great energy, and be willing to devote themselves to the advancement of God's glory, and of the moral welfare of their fellow-creatures.

Knowing as I do that thousands of children in this colony are growing up in utter ignorance, I think it is time that some such experiment as the above was tried, fully believing that it would be the means of making respectable citizens and good Christians of many who will otherwise grow up totally uneducated.

AND WITHOUT GOD IN THE WORLD.

A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

THE PRESENTATION OF CAMP COLOURS
AT PYRMONT.

To the Editor of the Herald.

SIR,—From several letters appearing in the daily journals, treating upon the incidents connected with the presentation of colours to the Australasian Steam Navigation Company of Volunteer Rifles, on the first inst., I am enabled to express dissatisfaction.

As a member of the volunteer force, I, with others, have to offer my best thanks for the kindness and generous hospitality displayed upon the occasion by the several gentlemen who took part in placing so liberal a refreshment for the forces on the ground.

And it is with extreme regret that some persons should have so far forgotten themselves as to abuse and destroy that kindness, so liberally offered—creating a stigma affecting the honour of the whole force.

I remain, your obedient servant,
VOLUNTEER.

THE *Times* in England enjoys its present enormous influence not only because it is purchased daily by fifty or sixty thousand persons, and read by two or three hundred thousand more, but also because its readers reproduce in their conversations the opinions and arguments they have seen expressed in its articles. Increasingly they become agents for spreading its name, and circulating its ideas, and thus hundreds of thousands of persons are affected by the *Times* without ever seeing it.—*The Russians at Home.*

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"satisfacendum" herein, on MONDAY, the
 tenth day of June, at noon, the SHERIFF will cause to be
 sold, at Cunningham's Tavern, King-street, Sydney (unless
 the execution be previously satisfied), all the right, title
 and estate (other than an equity of redemption) of
 the defendant, *(John Arthur Tompson)*, and described in the
 parcels of land, more particularly mentioned and described
 in the advertisement hereunto annexed, in the SYDNEY MORNING
 HERALD of Friday, the 31st day of May, 1861.
 Dated this twenty-ninth day of May, 1861.
 JOHN PHELAN, Under Sheriff.
 GILBERT WRIGHT, Solicitor for the Plaintiff.

